

In Congress, April 4, 1777

IN CONGRESS, APRIL 4, 1777.

RESOLVED, 1. **THAT** there be one Commissary-General of Musters for the Army of the United States.

2. That there be four Deputy Muster-Masters General; and that the said appointments be made by Congress.

3. That one Deputy Muster Master be appointed to each grand division of the army; and that these appointments be made by the Commander in Chief.

4. That the troops be mustered once in every month by the Deputy Muster-Masters; and once, at least, in every three months the Deputy Muster-Master General of each department shall superintend at such muster.

5. That in mustering, particular attention be paid to the clothes, arms, accoutrements and pay of the troops; and a report made to the Commanding Officer of the Department of neglect or deficiency.

6. That on every muster five rolls be made out by the Captain or Commanding Officer of every company or troop, sworn to and signed by him and one other Commissioned Officer; one of which rolls shall be returned to him certified by the Officer of Musters; one other shall be transmitted to the Board of Treasury; one to the Paymaster-General of the Department; and one to the Regimental Paymaster, to be affixed to the pay-roll.

7. That the Deputy Muster-Master-General of each Department, return an abstract of each muster-roll, once a month, to the Deputy Adjutant-General of that Department, and one other abstract to the Commissary-General of Musters.

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8. That the Commissary-General of Musters return to the Adjutant-General, once a month, an abstract of all the musters regimentally digested; together with an abstract of the rations drawn or retained by the several regiments.

9. That the issuing Commissaries be obliged to deliver monthly to the Commissary-General of Musters, an abstract of the rations drawn or retained by the several regiments.

10. That the Adjutant-General be obliged to send monthly to the Board of War, a copy of the abstracts which he receives from the Commissary-General of Musters; together with an abstract of the rations of the army.

11. That the pay of the Commissary General of Musters be 60 dollars per month, and 4 rations per day. Deputy Muster-Masters General 50 ditto 3 ditto Deputy Muster-Masters 35 ditto 2 ditto

12. Every Officer commanding a regiment, troop or company, who shall, upon notice given to him by any Officer of Musters, refuse or neglect to assemble the regiment, troop or company under his command, shall, on proof thereof before a General Court Martial, be cashiered.

APRIL 10. RESOLVED, That the Commissary General of Musters, have the rank of Colonel in the army of the United States.

That the Deputy Muster-Master-General have the rank of Lieutenant Colonels in the army of the United States.

MAY 2.

RESOLVED, That all muster-rolls directed to be taken, be sworn to before some General Officer of the army, or in the absence of a General Officer, before the Commanding Officer

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of the post where the muster is made, or some Civil Magistrate in these United States, and a Certificate thereof be made on the back of each roll, in the words following:

“We do swear that the within muster-roll; is a true state of the company without fraud to these United States, or to any individual, according to our best knowledge.

“Sworn to before me, this day of A. B. Captain, C. D. Lieutenant or Ensign.

RESOLVED, That each Deputy Muster-Master, deliver to the Deputy Muster-Master General of his department, one certified Copy of all muster-rolls, by which the latter shall make the abstracts required from him.

RESOLVED, That the Commissary-General of Musters and his Deputies, shall take an oath of office and fidelity to these United States.

RESOLVED, That in the absence of the Commander-in-Chief from any department, the Deputy Muster Masters shall be appointed by the Commander in that department.

RESOLVED, That the Mustering Officer be impowered and directed to require from the Officers, whose troops are mustered, any papers or vouchers relative to the enlistment and muster.

Extract from the Minutes, CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary.

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Apr. 4, 1777